

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete, marked-up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parenthesis, underlined text indicating insertions, and strike through and/or double-bracketed text indicating deletions.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A filler wire guide tube for guiding a filler wire, ~~the~~ a base material of the wire guide tube being plastic, comprising ~~wherein in the cross section of the wire guide tube is formed by~~ an inner layer region containing a particulate additive ~~comprising of~~ at least polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) and an outer layer region being not blended with ~~such an~~ the additive.
2. (Currently Amended) The filler wire guide tube of ~~patent~~ claim 1, wherein the additive composition includes particulate silicon.
3. (Currently Amended) The filler wire guide tube of claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ an amount of the additive composition is about 12 – 20 % in ~~the~~ weight of the additive containing inner layer region, and the additive composition ~~comprises~~ includes polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) ~~by of~~ of about 12 – 17 wt. % and silicon ~~by of~~ of about 1 – 3 wt. %.
4. (Currently Amended) The filler wire guide tube of claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ a thickness of the ~~additive containing~~ inner layer region is about 200 - 500 μm .

5. (Currently Amended) The filler wire guide tube of claim 1, wherein the base material of the wire guide tube is high-density polyethylene (HDPE).
6. (Currently Amended) The filler wire guide tube of claim 1, wherein the wire guide tube includes an inner diameter ~~is in the range~~ of about 2 - 4 mm and ~~the~~ an outer diameter ~~in the range of about~~ 4 - 7 mm.
7. (Currently Amended) The filler wire guide tube of claim 1, wherein the additive composition includes ~~molybdene~~ molybdenum sulfide.
8. (New) A filler wire guide tube for guiding a filler wire, comprising an inner layer region containing a particulate additive of at least polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) to reduce accumulation of debris and fouling and an outer layer region being not blended with the additive to provide structural stiffness.

<End of Claims Listing>